

Richmond Enquirer.

TUESDAY MORNING, JAN. 25, 1863.

CONGRESSIONAL ELECTION.

Permit me to call your attention to the Proclamation of Gov. Letcher published in another column, it will be seen that the 16th of February next has been appointed for the holding of an election to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Gen. John C. Breckinridge.

By reference to the advertisement in each column, it will be seen that daily communication between this city and Yorktown has been established. Passengers may now leave Richmond at 7 o'clock A. M., via Yorktown, stopping at all the intermediate landing, and return to Richmond by 7 P. M.

MAIL FAILURES.

We are requested to copy the following, as illustrating the causes of the mail irregularities, of which the Post Office Department gets the blame:—

LEXINGTON, VA., Jan. 23, 1862.

To the Clerk of the Contract Bureau Post Office Department.

The State of West Virginia, Va., the western terminus of Route 4,601, on Saturday, the 19th inst., at 7 o'clock A. M., was struck by a violent gale, which has since continued, and has now passed away, from the track by a road leading to "Marion," where we were despatched until 5 o'clock, the evening of the 19th inst., at which time we proceeded on our journey, but had only made 15 miles more when we came in collision with an engine train, so far ahead of our train here. We were detained until about noon of the 20th, and again proceeded on our way to Big Spring, 78 miles west of Lynchburg, and met with a small train, upon proper examination of the accident, in charge of Captains Mason and Stidell, on condition that we should not recognize the Southern Confederacy.

The London Morning Herald says that if the Mason and Stidell affair is settled, England and France have an inducement, on commercial grounds, to recognize the well-earned independence of the Confederate States, and that unless the step is manifestly taken by the Ministers at once, it is certain to be taken by Parliament on its assembling.

EVER SOFAUTLY,

Jas. L. OSTER.

Rome Again, V. & Tenn. R. R.

W. C.—This matter will be investigated by the railroad president. Some one has been guilty to blame in thus exposing the lives of passengers and employees. I am happy to say that no lives were lost, but one man severely injured. Miss Freeman, a gentleman in Westover, Tenn., had both legs broken, and is unable to use them.

LITTLE FORT.

Fort Henry is on the Tennessee River, where the boundary between Tennessee and Kentucky is. It is thirty miles above Paducah, and twenty miles below the long bridge across the Tennessee, the Memphis and Ohio Railroad. It is an open fort (not surrounded) but has, we understand, several very heavy guns in battery. Fort Donelson is on the Cumberland river, and thirteen miles distant from Fort Henry.

The French officers who recently arrived at Little Fort, bearing, as is believed, despatches to the French Consul in the Confederate states, were granted permission to enter the port. The American Consul demanded that the prisoners should be released under the protection of Spain, and the Spanish Consul entered the port without being allowed. It was rumored that the American Consul would have given an audience to the Spanish Consul, but he did not do so.

THE NEW ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF WAR.

To-day the President sent the names of John Tucker of Philadelphia, and Peter H. Watson, of this city, assistant secretaries of war.

The names were referred to the military committee.

ADVISERS OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

The Mexican Minister, Senor Elias Roma, is quite satisfied over the news received from Mexico. The upholding of the Mexican people to the right of Spain, French and British interests were expected. Private views from Mexico show that the people have had aside all of their old political quarrels, and agreed to unite in this present crisis.

The English Times observes that the beginning of February the re-employment of Admiral Milne will number seven of battle ships, thirty-three frigates, twenty-five corvettes and sloops of war, and speculate on what he can do therewith.

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THE LATENZI FROM EUROPE.

St. John's, N. F., Jan. 22.—The latest intelligence by telegraph via Quebec, is as follows:

LIVERPOOL, Jan. 20.—The Liverpool City of Washington, from New York, arrived on the 8th, and the steamer Juan, from Portland, arrived the same day. They brought out the announcement of the adjustment of the Trent affair, which was received with the greatest satisfaction. Consuls immediately advanced from 1½ per cent.

The arrival of Mason and Stidell to the British Isles was received with the greatest satisfaction, but some journals report that the Spanish minister, who was to meet them at the entrance of the Atlantic, had been captured by pirates.

The British Government, however, has issued a circular to all its consuls, forbidding the Spanish minister to meet them at the entrance of the Atlantic, and giving instructions to the Spanish authorities allowing no other port than New York to be used.

No other port than New York was used.

Colonel McMillan, commanding the 1st Georgia Regiment, was presented with a sword-chest on the 14th, by sundry gentlemen of Washington, North Carolina, where Colonel McMillan is in camp.

The vessels destroyed by the pirates Sumter and the ship Vigilant, largely Ellen Dodge and schooner Arede.

THE CONFEDERATE SWIMMING.

A correspondent says the Richmond *Advertiser*, sends us the following copy of a letter written by Gen. Charles Lee, of Revolutionary memory. It is dated Charleston, 24 June, 1776, and addressed to Col. Thompson, at Sullivans Island:

It is a certain truth that the enemy makes a most unfortunate apprehension of our resistance. It is equally certain that nothing can contribute to diminish this apprehension so infallibly as a frequent success. It is with some concern, however, that I am induced to think we have been obliged to take a much preposterous distance, the principal intent entailing and involving such a standing order that a man under your command is to fire at a greater distance than one hundred and fifty yards, in short, that there never was a more absurd or mortifying circumstance than hitting a man at such a distance.

Our stand fire has a double bad effect, it encourages the enemy, and adds to the perverse parsimony of the American soldiers, who are no match for their antagonists in close fighting. To speak plainly, it is almost a method of making them cowardly. Once more, I must request that a way be put to this childish, vicious and absurd practice.

The First and Second Tennessee regiments were ordered to the right wing for the purpose of outflanking the enemy. Standard and Whitmore's batteries, in the meantime, shelling the enemy in the woods.

After being engaged nearly two hours, the Ninth Ohio, Second Minnesota and Fourth Kentucky Regiments made a desperate bayonet charge upon the enemy and drove them from the woods, completely routing and putting them to their entrenchments. At the heat of the engagement, Capt. Skinner ordered one section of his battery within sixty yards of the enemy's line and opened a deadly fire upon them, which added greatly to the success of the day.

Our advance arrived within sight of the Rebel entrenched one hour before dark, and fired upon them with shot and shell—Night closing in put a stop to further demonstrations. At day light the next morning a steamboat was observed transporting troops across the Cumberland. Whitmore's Battery of Parrott guns were brought to bear on the boat, which, in a few minutes afterwards was in flames. The Tenth Ohio and Fourteenth Ohio were ordered by General Thomas to advance upon the enemy's breastworks. Moving up in line of battle and acting the rôle of veterans, they found their condition, while garrisoning the fortifications, very different, and everything standing was occupied by the enemy. The rebels had, however, prepared themselves to repel the assault, and many men who had no rifle, but a bayonet, were found in perfect preservation. The rebel forces in the attack were led by Generals Crittenden and Zollicoffer, and were 8,000 strong.

LOUISVILLE, Jan. 23.—The Louisville Journal says that the instructions of Gen. Bell, who is to succeed him, are to be carried out, and that the new General will go into the new State of West Virginia. Dr. P. D. Phipps is the pretended Governor. He and the leaders in this state were the mere tools of the enemy, and no project could long last with such men as its leaders. He urged the formation of companies to carry out his designs, to be drilled and equipped, that might be ready, at a moment's warning, to repel the invading hosts of the despot, Lucifer, from the soil of Pennsylvania, but from the State of Virginia. Several other addresses were also made after the 1st of January, but I lack the following details.

Now, sir, it is to be recommended to the public meeting in Pennsylvania, that the citizens and soldiers are straggling in, loaded with the trophies of battle. Our bullets were sent with cheering aim, and many of the Confederates are shot in the forehead, breast and body. The Union people have fled to the battle field in droves, and are jubilant at their victory.

A private letter from Somerset says that the citizens and soldiers are straggling in, loaded with the trophies of battle. Our bullets were sent with cheering aim, and many of the Confederates are shot in the forehead, breast and body. The Union people have fled to the battle field in droves, and are jubilant at their victory.

After some other remarks, it was moved by Mr. Herod, Esq., that the Richmond and Lexington papers be requested to publish the foregoing. The resolution was unanimously adopted.

H. McGlaughlin, Chairman.

M. Wallace, Secretary.

LATE NORTHERN INTELLIGENCE.

The Norfolk "Day Book" has received a copy of the Baltimore "Sun" of the 23d inst., from which the following interesting articles are selected:

FACTS BY THE CITY OF NEW YORK GREAT BRITAIN.

Pending the arrival of the Europa, there was a feeling of great suspense in England, but the funds were but temporarily depressed. Some journals argue that a definite answer was not to be expected by the Europa, and that the cause of peace was to be decided by Gen. Officers and their regiments and divisions may receive orders to be in readiness to move at a moment's notice. Gen. McClellan's 24 baggage wagons, including arrangements for eating and sleeping, will march bright bays, may be in good running iron, but an advance movement of the army of the Potomac, officers and their regiments and divisions may receive orders to be in readiness to move at a moment's notice. Gen. McClellan's 24 baggage wagons, including arrangements for eating and sleeping, will march bright bays, may be in good running iron, but an advance movement of the army of the Potomac, officers and their regiments and divisions may receive orders to be in readiness to move at a moment's notice. Gen. 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